



*Radioisotopes in cancer research*

see overleaf

## **frontispiece . . .**

Cancer research in the past 20 years and particularly since World War II has produced notable advances in both the treatment and diagnosis of cancer, despite the fact that it has yet to provide an all-purpose cure (see page 309). One of these advances is the development of the use of radioisotopes. Shown on the frontispiece is a technician holding a plastic block containing a beaker of radioactive phosphorous, one of a number of radioisotopes under study. The plastic material is dense enough to shield the technician from harmful radiation. Phosphorous has so far been used in whole body radiation and in the treatment of polycythemia vera and certain chronic leukemias. It has also been used, with limited success, as a tracer in the diagnosis of cancer of the brain, breast, and testicle.

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